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# Reagan's shrinking roster

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**P**at Buchanan's departure from the White House started me thinking:

Whatever happened to that happy few, the young and old conservatives who came to Washington in 1981 to work for President Reagan in the White House and to man the great departments of state, the executive agencies?

As one recalls those euphoric days of the transition teams and the thereafter, one might quote the words of William Wordsworth: "Bliss was it in that dawn to be alive," and to amend him, but to be a Reagan conservative "was very heaven."

Six years later, what's the score? How many of that band remain? What happened to the rest? I have undertaken a funereal task, collecting names to form a political necrology of these once happy warriors, now missing. There is no suggestion nor any implication that all were fired or forced out of their jobs; some went off to greener pastures,

to better jobs. Then there were some who were not encouraged to stay or were fired.

The point of this exercise is that when you put the 40-odd names together, you find that hardline anti-Communist Reagan conservatives somehow didn't last in the Reagan administration. That there are hardline anti-Communists on federal advisory bodies is true. But how much power do they have? Are they in the room when weighty decisions are made on domestic or foreign policy issues?

I am going to list 46 of them alphabetically, although I cannot vouch that this is a complete list. As you read through these names, ask:

Why are they on the outside and X, Y, and Z (you fill in the names) are on the inside? Here goes:

Richard Allen, national security adviser;

Martin Anderson, domestic policy adviser;

Annelise Anderson, associate director, Office of Management and Budget;

Doug Bandow, special assistant to the president for policy development;

Aram Bakshian, White House speech writer;

Morton Blackwell, special assistant to the president for public liaison;

Dan Boggs, senior policy adviser on energy and environment;

Wendy Borchard, White House personnel;

Pat Buchanan, White House communications director;

Judge William Clark, national security adviser;

John Cogan, associate director, OMB;

Donald Devine, director, Office of Personnel Management;

Peter Duignan, U.S. archivist-to-be, shot down by left-liberal protests

so his nomination never even got to Congress;

Ben Elliott, White House speech writer;

James Edwards, secretary of Energy;

Max Friedesdorf, White House legislative liaison;

Evan Galbraith, former U.S. ambassador to France;

**P** Alan Greenspan, President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board;

Edwin Harper, deputy director, OMB;

Kevin Hopkins, special assistant to the president;

Jeane Kirkpatrick, former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations;

Ken Khachigian, White House speech writer;

Larry Kudlow, chief economist, OMB;

John Lehman Jr., secretary of the Navy;

Constantine Menges, National Security Council;

Charles McClure, deputy assistant secretary of the Treasury;

John McLaughry, special assistant to the president on agriculture;

**P** Adm. Thomas Moorer, President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board;

Peggy Noonan, White House speech writer;

William Niskanen, Council of Economic Advisers;

Richard Pipes, National Security Council expert on the Soviet Union;

Paul Craig Roberts, assistant secretary of the Treasury for economic policy;

Eugene Rostow, President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board;

William Schneider, undersecretary of State;

Richard Staar, ambassador;

Jack Svahn, undersecretary of Health and Human Services;

David Swoap, undersecretary of Health and Human Services;

David Stockman, director, OMB;

David Sullivan, Arms Control and Disarmament Agency;

Edward Thomas, deputy to Edwin Meese III;

Norman Ture, undersecretary of the Treasury;

James Watt, former secretary of the Interior;

**P** Seymour Weiss, President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board;

Edward Bennett Williams, President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board;

Faith Whittlesey, White House liaison;

Murray Weidenbaum, Council of Economic Advisers.

So here are the names of conservatives who are not in policy-making positions, whether on domestic or foreign issues. Make of this list, incomplete as it may be, what you will. Explain it as best you can. It was not Camelot, it was the counterrevolution that was.

The undeniable fact remains that some of the best and the brightest conservatives, young and old, whose conjunction at that time and in this place was miraculous, this pentecostal crew which was dedicated to Reagan policies is, like the Reagan policies, gone forever. The consequences are, for me at least, tragically visible.

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